

autumn concert

felix mendelssohn

# elijah

soprano: catharine rogers  
mezzo-soprano: camilla bull  
tenor: matthew pochin  
baritone (elijah): benjamin seifert

musical director: benjamin wolf

7.30 pm, saturday 1 november 2014  
st mark's church, nw1 7tn



Hampstead  
Sinfonietta

The Zemel Choir

Royal free  
Music Society

programme £15

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# welcome

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Dear Audience

Welcome to our Autumn concert, our biggest production this year, for a performance of Mendelssohn's Elijah, providing a bit of fire and brimstone, and still small voices, to warm and comfort us as the evenings draw in.

The Royal Free Music Society Choir and the Zemel Choir are delighted to join forces for this performance, and we are always very grateful for the support of the Hampstead Sinfonietta.

Elijah was a new challenge to many of us but it has been a real pleasure to learn it and we hope that you enjoy the end result as much as we will enjoy performing it. Ben Wolf is conductor and Musical Director of both choirs and must take much responsibility for the result!

As ever, we would like to thank Ben for his dedication to getting the best out of us, as well as our wonderful and dedicated accompanist Gill Cracknell. Our thanks are also extended to tonight's soloists, as well as the brave members of our choirs who are performing short ensembles, and the Hampstead Sinfonietta. We also thank the parish of St Mark's and Reverend William Gulliford for allowing us to perform in this beautiful venue, and you the audience for coming to support us. And last but not least, we are extremely grateful to the Williams Church Music Trust and the Hampstead Wells and Campden Trust for grants received.

**Lucinda Sturgis and Nick Jackson**  
Co-Chairs  
RFMS Choir

**Diane Sheer**  
Chairman  
The Zemel Choir

# programme

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## Additional soloists

**Soprano:** Angela Lawrence, Kate Screen

**Alto:** Deborah Cooper, Jennifer Eberle, Diana Parkinson, Diane Sheer

**Tenor:** Stephen Rabin, Barbara Byth

**Bass:** Anthony Cohen, Gallin Hornick

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## Part I

Introduction: As God the Lord of Israel liveth (Elijah) - Overture

1. Help, Lord! (the people)
2. Lord! bow thine ear to our prayer! (the people, soprano, alto)
3. Ye people, rend your hearts (Obadiah)
4. If with all your hearts (Obadiah)
5. Yet doth the Lord see it not (the people)
6. Elijah! get thee hence (Angel I)
7. For he shall give his angels (quartet of angels)
- 7a. Now Cherith's brook is dried up (Angel I)
8. What have I to do with thee? (Widow, Elijah)
9. Blessed are the men who fear him (chorus)
10. As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth (Elijah, Ahab, chorus)
11. Baal, we cry to thee; hear and answer us! (priests of Baal)
12. Call him louder, for he is a god! (Elijah, priests of Baal)
13. Call him louder! he heareth not! (Elijah, priests of Baal)
14. Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel! (Elijah)
15. Cast thy burden upon the Lord (quartet of angels)
16. O thou, who makest thine angels spirits (Elijah, the people)
17. Is not his word like a fire? (Elijah)
18. Woe unto them who forsake him! (alto)
19. O man of God, help thy people! (Obadiah, Elijah, the people, Youth)

19a. O Lord, thou hast overthrown thine enemies (Elijah, people)

20. Thanks be to God (chorus)

## ***Interval***

### **Part II**

21. Hear ye, Israel (soprano)

22. Be not afraid, saith God the Lord (chorus)

23. The Lord hath exalted thee (Elijah, Queen, chorus)

24. Woe to him, he shall perish (chorus)

25. Man of God, now let my words be precious (Obadiah, Elijah)

26. It is enough; Lord take my life (Elijah)

27. See, now he sleepeth (tenor)

28. Lift thine eyes, lift thine eyes (chorus of angels)

29. He, watching over Israel, slumbers not (chorus of angels)

30. Arise, Elijah, for thou hast a long journey (Angel I, Elijah)

31. O rest in the Lord (Angel I)

32. Night falleth round me, Lord! (Elijah, Angel II)

33. Behold! God the Lord passeth by! (chorus)

34. Above him stood the Seraphim (alto); Holy is God the Lord (chorus of angels)

35. Go, return upon thy way! (chorus) I go on my way (Elijah)

36. For the mountains shall depart (Elijah)

37. Then did Elijah the prophet break forth (chorus)

38. Then shall the righteous shine forth (tenor)

39. Behold, God hath sent Elijah (soprano)

40. But the Lord, from the north hath raised one (chorus)

40A. O come everyone that thirsteth (quartet)

41. And then shall your light break forth (chorus)

**the hampstead sinfonietta is led by tim miller**

# musical director

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## Benjamin Wolf

Benjamin Wolf works as a conductor, pianist, composer, singer and academic. He is Musical Director of the Zemel Choir, the Wallace Ensemble and the Royal Free Music Society, Choirmaster of Belsize Square Synagogue and a regular conductor of the Quorum Chamber Choir. Performances with the Zemel Choir have included Holocaust memorial services for the Mayor of London, concerts at the South Bank and St John's Smith Square, a broadcast for the BBC's Songs of Praise and tours to Europe, Israel and the USA. Activities with the Wallace Ensemble have included performances at the Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room, while the professional choir of Belsize Square Synagogue has been featured on documentaries for BBC radio and television. Recent performances have included Westminster Abbey's 'Service of Solemn Remembrance and Hope on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Kristallnacht' and performances for the International Louis Lewandowski Festival in Berlin.

As composer, he has written music for the concert hall and the stage, including works using the texts and modes of Ancient Greek, a piano concerto and a cello concerto commissioned for the 70th anniversary of Belsize Square synagogue. He has written a number of pieces for the Zemel Choir and wrote new instrumental works for the Chichester Festival in 2013 and 2014. As pianist, he works as both accompanist and solo recitalist, while his singing is primarily focussed on performances with his own Jewish barbershop quartet, bOYbershop, for which he has written a number of arrangements and original compositions, including comic songs *The Only Jewish Cowgirl* and *Fifty Shades of Hay*.

Following the award of a PhD in 2010, he worked as a visiting lecturer at Royal Holloway and Senior Associate Teacher at Bristol University. In 2011 he was appointed as Lecturer in Music at Regent's University, London, where he teaches both academic courses and runs the newly formed choirs of the Regent's School of Drama, Film and Media. He has given conference papers in the UK and America, and was on the organising team for a conference at the IMR in January 2013 (focussing on music in twentieth-century Britain). He has also worked as a researcher on a Royal Holloway project investigating the use of music to accompany silent films.

# soloists

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## Catharine Rogers (soprano)

Catharine studied music at the University of Durham, Performance at Trinity Laban, and completed the Opera Course at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with performances as Fiordiligi, *Così fan Tutte* and Blanche, *les Dialogues des Carmélites*. Whilst a student at the RSAMD she was the subject of a documentary in a series on divas for the Open University. She studies privately with Robert Dean.

She has worked for companies and festivals including English National Opera, Scottish Opera, Festival d'Aix en Provence, Buxton Festival & Edinburgh International Festival. In the summer of 2013 she was invited to perform at the Coronation Festival at Buckingham Palace. Most recently she performed Sarah Clemency (MacMillan) for Highbury Opera Theatre & Donna Elvira *Don Giovanni* for Diva Opera on tour in the UK and France. Her next role is Alice Ford *Falstaff* for Fulham Opera.

## Camilla Francesca Bull (mezzo-soprano)

A native of the Isle of Wight, Camilla studied singing at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Since graduating, she has worked across the UK and Europe - music festivals in Ponte de Lima (Portugal) and Anghiari (Italy) and with UK companies; Opera at Home (*Witch, Hansel and Gretel*), Opera South East (*Orpheus*, Gluck's *Orpheus*), Scarlet Opera (*Polinesso, Ariodante*).

While on ENO's Operaworks 2011/2 programme, Camilla worked with Marcello Magni Complicité theatre, Christian Curnyn, John Berry and had performance opportunities on the ENO stage and venues such as National Portrait Gallery. She continues to study with Robert Dean.

She has appeared with Grange Park Opera in *Eugene Onegin*, *Queen of Spades* and *I Puritani*. Future plans include *Cherubino*, for Cambridge Operatic Society and creating the role of Nurse for the premiere of 'Clive' with Gestalt Arts.

## **Matthew Pochin (tenor)**

Matthew began his singing career as a chorister at Hereford Cathedral where he later became a choral scholar and lay clerk. While a student at Cardiff University he also studied at the Welsh Collage of Music and Drama, where he played Hyllus in a production of Handel's *Hercules*. He continued his career on his return to Hereford, performing oratorios, recitals and several Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

Matthew moved to South London in 2007 and, in addition to singing regularly at St. John's Wood Parish Church and Belsize Square Synagogue, he also sings at churches across the city, including St. Margaret's, Westminster, St. Columba's, Knightsbridge (Church of Scotland), St. Nicholas', Chiswick and St. Anne's, Highgate.

## **Benjamin Seifert (baritone - Elijah)**

Benjamin Seifert (baritone) read Modern Languages at St Peter's College, Oxford. He then trained on ENO's *The Knack* and at the Royal Academy of Music. In 2004 he performed as a soloist in Orlando Gough's *For the Public Good* at ENO and has since sung at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Cadogan Hall, the Purcell Room and the Wigmore Hall.

He has worked with the Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company at Buxton, British Youth Opera, Grange Park Opera, Opera Holland Park, Opera by Definition, Tête à Tête Opera and Arcola Opera. Operatic roles include Colas (Bastien & Bastienne), Zaretsky (Eugene Onegin) Harlekin (Ariadne auf Naxos), Don Giovanni, the Count, (Le Nozze di Figaro), Bill Bobstay (HMS Pinafore), the Foreman (Trial by Jury) and Marcello (La Bohème) at the Soho Theatre, winning the Olivier Award for Best New Opera Production. He was recently seen as the Mayor in Pop Up Opera's *Docteur Miracle*, a short except of which was performed live on Radio 3's *In Tune*.

Oratorio work includes Messiah, Haydn's Nelson Mass, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, Fauré's Requiem and the St Matthew Passion.



# programme notes

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by Benjamin Wolf

This, Mendelssohn's second oratorio, tells the story of the biblical prophet Elijah. Elijah's story is told in the Books of Kings, though the text for this oratorio is compiled from many different biblical sources, including the Book of Lamentations, the books of Job and Jeremiah, and the Psalms of David. Elijah himself is one of the most significant prophetic figures in both the Jewish and Christian traditions, as he is believed to be the harbinger of the coming of the Messiah.

Mendelssohn's oratorio was begun in 1838, though he abandoned the project in 1839. It was revived when he received a commission from the Birmingham Festival committee in 1845, who desired Mendelssohn both to conduct at the 1846 festival and also to write a new oratorio. He revived the project and it received its first performance in Birmingham on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 1846. Although the work began its existence as an oratorio in German, its first performance was in English, and its popularity proved far greater in England than in Germany. This popularity must have been in part a consequence of the importance of amateur choral singing in nineteenth-century England. It probably also reflected the prestigious position of oratorio and the importance of Christian observance in Victorian society. In *Elijah*, English choirs found a work that could take its place alongside the most prestigious of all oratorios - Handel's *Messiah*.

The story is set in biblical Israel, at a time when that country was divided into two kingdoms, Israel in the north and Judah in the south. Israel was governed by King Ahab, who was married to Jezebel. They encouraged the worship of the Canaanite god Baal, a religious practice that was considered idolatrous by Elijah, and which was blamed for a famine that afflicted the country. The first part of the oratorio tells the story of Elijah's confrontation with the prophets of Baal, his victory over them, and his bringing of rain to end the drought. It also describes Elijah as a worker of miracles, as he brings the son of the widow of Zarepath back to life. In the second part Elijah is forced to flee from a vengeful Jezebel, but returns in glory and is taken up to heaven in a fiery chariot. The oratorio concludes with quotations from the prophet Isaiah which look ahead to the coming of the Messiah.

A number of different characters are represented in the oratorio. Elijah is portrayed by the baritone soloist, while the tenor represents the character of Obadiah, a servant of Ahab who was also a follower of the true God, and also King Ahab himself. The soprano and alto soloists portray various characters including the widow of Zarepath and Queen Jezebel. The chorus, meanwhile, oscillate between support for Baal and support for Elijah, representing priests, Israelites, commentators on the story and even angels.

# Elijah - libretto

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## **PART 1**

### ***Introduction (Elijah)***

As God the Lord of Israel liveth, before whom I stand; there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

### ***Overture***

#### ***1 The People (Chorus)***

Help, Lord! Wilt thou quite destroy us? The harvest now is over, the summer days are gone, and yet no power cometh to help us! Will then the Lord be no more God in Zion? The deeps afford no water; and the rivers are exhausted! The suckling's tongue now cleaveth for thirst to his mouth: the infant children ask for bread, and there is no-one breaketh it to feed them!

#### ***2 Sopranos and the People (Duet and Chorus)***

Lord, bow thine ear to our prayer! Zion spreadeth her hands for aid; and there is neither help nor comfort.

#### ***3 Obadiah (Recitative)***

Ye people, rend your hearts, and not your garments, for your transgressions: even as Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God, I therefore say to ye: forsake your idols, return to God: for he is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind and gracious, and repenteth him of the evil.

#### ***4 Obadiah (Aria)***

'If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me.' Thus saith our God. Oh! That I knew where I might find him, that I might even come before his presence!

#### ***5 The People (Chorus)***

Yet doth the Lord see it not: he mocketh at us; his curse hath fallen down upon us; his wrath will pursue us till he destroy us! For he, the Lord our God, he is a jealous God; and he visiteth all the fathers' sins on the children to the third and the fourth generation of them that hate him. His mercies on thousands fall, fall on all them that love him, and keep his commandments.

#### ***6 An Angel (Recitative)***

Elijah! Get thee hence; depart, and turn thee eastward: thither hide thee by Cherith's brook. There shalt thou drink its waters; and the Lord thy God hath commanded the ravens to feed thee there: so do according unto his word.

#### ***7 Angels (Double Quartet)***

For he shall give his angels charge over thee; that they shall protect thee in all the ways thou goest; that their hands shall uphold and guide thee, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

### **An Angel (Recitative)**

Now Cherith's brook is dried up, Elijah, arise and depart, and get thee to Zarephath; thither abide: for the Lord hath commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. And the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

### **8 Recitative**

#### **The Widow**

What have I to do with thee, O man of God? Art thou come to me to call my sin unto remembrance? To slay my son art thou come hither? Help me, man of God! My son is sick! And his sickness is so sore that there is no breath left in him! I go mourning all the day long; I lie down and weep at night. See mine affliction. Be thou the orphan's helper! Help my son! There is no breath left in him!

#### **Elijah**

Give me thy son. Turn unto her, O Lord my God; O turn in mercy, in mercy help this widow's son! For thou art gracious, and full of compassion, and plenteous in mercy and truth. Lord, my God, let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

#### **The Widow**

Wilt thou show wonders to the dead? There is no breath in him!

#### **Elijah**

Lord, my God, let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

#### **The Widow**

Shall the dead arise and praise thee?

#### **Elijah**

Lord, my God, O let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

#### **The Widow**

The Lord hath heard thy prayer, the soul of my son reviveth!

#### **Elijah**

Now behold, thy son liveth!

#### **The Widow**

Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that his word in thy mouth is the truth. What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?

#### **Elijah**

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

#### **The Widow**

... with all my soul, and with all my might.

#### **Both**

O blessed are they who fear him!

### **9 Chorus**

Blessed are the men who fear him: they ever walk in the ways of peace. Through darkness riseth light to the upright. He is gracious, compassionate: he is righteous.

### ***10 Recitative and Chorus***

**Elijah**

As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth, before whom I stand, three years this day fulfilled, I will shew myself unto Ahab; and the Lord will then send rain again upon the earth.

**Ahab**

Art thou Elijah? Art thou, art thou he that troubleth Israel?

**The People**

Thou art Elijah, thou, he that troubleth Israel!

**Elijah**

I never troubled Israel's peace: it is thou, Ahab, and all thy father's house. Ye have forsaken God's commands: and thou hast follow'd Baalim! Now send and gather to me the whole of Israel unto Mount Carmel: there summon the prophets of Baal, and also the prophets of the groves, who are feasted at Jezebel's table. Then we shall see whose God is the Lord.

**The People**

And then we shall see whose God is God the Lord.

**Elijah**

Rise then, ye priests of Baal: select and slay a bullock, and put no fire under it: uplift your voices and call the god ye worship; and I then will call on the Lord Jehovah: and the God who by fire shall answer, let him be God.

**The People**

Yea; and the God who by fire shall answer, let him be God.

**Elijah**

Call first upon your god: your numbers are many; I, even I, only remain one prophet of the Lord! Invoke your forest gods and mountain deities.

### ***11 Priests of Baal (Chorus)***

Baal, we cry to thee; hear and answer us! Heed the sacrifice we offer! Baal, O hear us, and answer us! Hear us, Baal! Hear, mighty god! Baal, O answer us! Baal, let thy flames fall and extirpate the foe! Baal, O hear us!

### ***12 Recitative and Chorus***

**Elijah**

Call him louder, for he is a god! He talketh; or he is pursuing; or he is in a journey; or, peradventure, he sleepeth: so awaken him: call him louder!

**Priests of Baal**

Hear our cry, O Baal! Now arise! Wherefore slumber?

### ***13 Recitative and Chorus***

**Elijah**

Call him louder! He heareth not. With knives and lancets cut yourselves after your manner: leap upon the altar ye have made: call him, and prophesy! Not a voice will answer you; none will listen, none heed you.

**Priests of Baal**

Baal, hear and answer, Baal! Mark how the scorner derideth us! Hear and answer!

## **Elijah**

Draw near, all ye people: come to me!

### **14 *Elijah (Aria)***

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel! This day let it be known that thou art God; and that I am thy servant! O show to all this people that I have done these things according to thy word! O hear me, Lord, and answer me; and shew this people that thou art Lord God; and let their hearts again be turned!

### **15 *Quartet***

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee. He never will suffer the righteous to fall: he is at thy right hand. Thy mercy, Lord, is great; and far above the heav'ns. Let none be made ashamed that wait upon thee.

### **16 *Recitative and Chorus***

#### **Elijah**

O thou, who makest thine angels spirits; thou, whose ministers are flaming fires, let them now descend!

#### **The People**

The fire descends from heav'n. The flames consume his offering! Before him upon your faces fall! The Lord is God! O Israel, hear! Our God is one Lord! And we will have no other gods before the Lord!

#### **Elijah**

Take all the prophets of Baal; and let not one of them escape you: bring them down to Kishon's brook, and there let them be slain.

#### **The People**

Take all the prophets of Baal; and let not one of them escape us; bring all, and slay them!

### **17 *Elijah (Aria)***

Is not his word like a fire: and like a hammer that breaketh the rock into pieces? For God is angry with the wicked ev'ry day: and if the wicked turn not, the Lord will whet his sword; and he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.

### **18 *Mezzo-soprano (Arioso)***

Woe unto them who forsake him! Destruction shall fall upon them, for they have transgressed against him. Though they are by him redeemed, yet they have spoken falsely against him. From him have they fled. Woe unto them!

### **19 *Recitative and Chorus***

#### **Obadiah**

O man of God, help thy people! Among the idols of the Gentiles, are there any that can command the rain, or cause the heav'ns to give their showers? The Lord our God alone can do these things.

**Elijah**

O Lord, thou hast overthrown thine enemies and destroyed them. Look down on us from heaven, O Lord; regard the distress of thy people: open the heavens and send us relief: help, help thy servant now, O God!

**The People**

Open the heavens and send us relief: help, help thy servant now, O God!

**Elijah**

Go up now, child, and look toward the sea. Hath my prayer been heard by the Lord?

**The Youth**

There is nothing. The heav'ns are as brass, they are as brass above me.

**Elijah**

When the heavens are closed up because they have sinned against thee, yet if they pray and confess thy name, and turn from their sin when thou dost afflict them: then hear from heav'n, and forgive the sin! Help! Send thy servant help, O God!

**The People**

Then hear from heav'n, and forgive the sin! Help! Send thy servant help, O God!

**Elijah**

Go up again, and still look toward the sea.

**The Youth**

There is nothing. The earth is as iron under me!

**Elijah**

Hearst thou no sound of rain? Seest thou nothing arise from the deep?

**The Youth**

No; there is nothing.

**Elijah**

Have respect to the pray'r of thy servant, O Lord, my God! Unto thee will I cry, Lord, my rock; be not silent to me; and thy great mercies remember, Lord!

**The Youth**

Behold, a little cloud ariseth now from the waters; it is like a man's hand! The heavens are black with cloud and with wind: the storm rusheth louder and louder!

**The People**

Thanks be to God for all his mercies!

**Elijah**

Thanks be to God, for he is gracious, and his mercy endureth for evermore!

**20 The People (Chorus)**

Thanks be to God! He laveth the thirsty land! The waters gather, they rush along; they are lifting their voices! The stormy billows are high, their fury is mighty. But the Lord is above them, and Almighty!

**INTERVAL**

## **PART 2**

### **21 Soprano (Aria)**

Hear ye, Israel; hear what the Lord speaketh: 'Oh, hadst thou heeded my commandments!' Who hath believed our report; to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? Thus saith the Lord, the redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him oppressed by tyrants: thus saith the Lord: 'I am he that comforteth: be not afraid, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee. Say, who art thou, that thou art afraid of a man that shall die; and forgettest the Lord thy maker, who hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the earth's foundations? Be not afraid, for I, thy God, will strengthen thee!'

### **22 Chorus**

Be not afraid, saith God the Lord. Be not afraid! Thy help is near. God, the Lord thy God, sayeth unto thee, 'Be not afraid!' Though thousands languish and fall beside thee, and tens of thousands around thee perish, yet still it shall not come nigh thee.

### **23 Recitative and Chorus**

#### **Elijah**

The Lord hath exalted thee from among the people: and o'er his people Israel hath made thee king. But thou, Ahab, hast done evil to provoke him to anger above all that were before thee: as if it had been a light thing for thee to walk in the sins of Jeroboam. Thou hast made a grove and an altar to Baal, and serv'd him and worshipp'd him. Thou hast killed the righteous, and also taken possession. And the Lord shall smite all Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water; and he shall give Israel up, and thou shalt know he is the Lord.

#### **The Queen**

Have ye not heard he hath prophesied against all Israel?

#### **The People**

We heard it with our ears.

#### **The Queen**

Hath he not prophesied also against the king of Israel?

#### **The People**

We heard it with our ears.

#### **The Queen**

And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Doth Ahab govern the kingdom of Israel while Elijah's power is greater than the king's? The gods do so to me, and more, if, by tomorrow about this time, I make not his life as the life of one of them whom he hath sacrific'd at the brook of Kishon!

#### **The People**

He shall perish!

#### **The Queen and the People**

Hath he not destroyed Baal's prophets? Yea, by sword he destroyed them all! He also closed the heavens! And called down a famine upon the land.

## **The Queen**

So go ye forth and seize Elijah, for he is worthy to die; slaughter him! Do unto him as he hath done!

## **24 Chorus**

Woe to him, he shall perish; for he closed the heavens! And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Let the guilty prophet perish! He hath spoken falsely against our land and us, as we have heard with our ears. So go ye forth; seize on him! He shall die!

## **25 Recitative**

### **Obadiah**

Man of God, now let my words be precious in thy sight. Thus saith Jezebel: 'Elijah is worthy to die.' So the mighty gather against thee, and they have prepared a net for thy steps; that they may seize thee, that they may slay thee. Arise, then, and hasten for thy life; to the wilderness journey. The Lord thy God doth go with thee: he will not fail thee, he will not forsake thee. Now begone, and bless me also.

### **Elijah**

Though stricken, they have not grieved! Tarry here, my servant: the Lord be with thee. I journey hence to the wilderness.

## **26 Elijah (Recitative)**

It is enough; O Lord, now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers! I desire to live no longer: now let me die, for my days are but vanity! I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts! For the children of Israel have broken thy covenant, and thrown down thine altars, and slain all thy prophets, slain them with the sword: and I, even I, only am left; and they seek my life to take it away.

## **27 Tenor (Recitative)**

See, now he sleepeth beneath a juniper tree in the wilderness: and there the angels of the Lord encamp round about all them that fear him.

## **28 The Angels (Trio)**

Lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved; thy keeper will never slumber.

## **29 Chorus**

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps. Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, he will quicken thee.

## **30 Recitative**

### **The Angel**

Arise, Elijah, for thou hast a long journey before thee. Forty days and forty nights shalt thou go to Horeb, the mount of God.



## **Elijah**

O Lord, I have labour'd in vain; yea, I have spent my strength for naught, and in vain! O that thou wouldst rend the heavens, that thou wouldst come down; that the mountains would flow down at thy presence, to make thy name known to thine adversaries, through the wonders of thy works! O Lord, why hast thou made them to err from thy ways, and hardened their hearts that they do not fear thee? O that I now might die!

### **31 The Angel (Aria)**

O rest in the Lord; wait patiently for him, and he shall give thee thy heart's desires. Commit thy way unto him, and trust in him, and fret not thyself because of evil-doers.

### **32 Recitative**

#### **Elijah**

Night falleth round me, O Lord! Be thou not far from me! Hide not thy face, O Lord, from me; my soul is thirsting for thee, as a thirsty land.

#### **The Angel**

Arise, now! Get thee without, stand on the mount before the Lord; for there his glory will appear and shine on thee! Thy face must be veiled, for he draweth near.

### **33 Chorus**

Behold! God the Lord passed by! And a mighty wind rent the mountains around, brake in pieces the rocks, brake them before the Lord: but yet the Lord was not in the tempest. Behold! God the Lord passed by! And the sea was upheaved, and the earth was shaken: but yet the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake there came a fire, the sea was upheaved, the earth was shaken: but yet the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came a still small voice; and in that still voice onward came the Lord.

### **34 Mezzo-soprano (Recitative)**

Above him stood the Seraphim, and one cried to another:

#### **Seraphim (Quartet and Chorus)**

Holy, holy, holy is God the Lord, the Lord Sabaoth! Now his glory hath filled all the earth.

### **35 Chorus**

Go, return upon thy way! For the Lord yet hath left him seven thousand in Israel, knees which have not bow'd to Baal: go, return upon thy way. Thus the Lord commandeth.

#### **Elijah (Recitative)**

I go on my way in the strength of the Lord. For thou art my Lord; and I will suffer for thy sake. My heart is therefore glad, my glory rejoiceth, and my flesh shall also rest in hope!

### **36 Elijah (Arioso)**

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but thy kindness shall not depart from me, neither shall the covenant of thy peace be removed.

### **37 Chorus**

Then did Elijah the prophet break forth like a fire; his words appeared like burning torches. Mighty kings by him were overthrown. He stood on the mount of Sinai, and heard the judgements of the future; and in Horeb, its vengeance. And when the Lord would take him away to heaven, lo! There came a fiery chariot, with fiery, fiery horses; and he went by a whirlwind to heaven.

### **38 Tenor (Aria)**

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heav'nly Father's realm. Joy on their head shall be for ever lasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee away for ever.

### **39 Soprano (Recitative)**

Behold, God hath sent Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children unto their fathers; lest the Lord shall come and smite the earth with a curse.

### **40 Chorus**

But the Lord from the north hath raised one, who from the rising of the sun shall call upon his Name, and come on princes. Behold, my servant and mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth! On him the Spirit of God shall rest: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of might and of counsel, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. Thus saith the Lord: 'I have raised one from the north, who from the rising, on my name shall call'.

### **40a Quartet**

O come ev'ry one that thirsteth, O come to the waters: O come unto him! O hear, and your souls shall live for ever!

### **41 Chorus**

And then shall your light break forth as the light of the morning breaketh; and your health shall speedily spring forth then; and the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you. Lord, our Creator, how excellent thy name is in all the nations! Thou fillest heaven with thy glory. Amen!

*Text derived from the Lutheran Bible by Julius Schubring (1806-89) and the composer, translated into English by William Bartholomew (1793-1867)*



71 Regents Park Road, London NW1 8UY

**Carole and Jonathan  
Fenton wish the Zemel  
Choir every continued  
success**

# the royal free music society

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The Royal Free Music Society is a group of healthcare professionals, local residents and their friends, who meet on a weekly basis in the Royal Free Hospital to stage four concerts a year. We sing a wide variety of music. Performances have included Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, Haydn's *Creation*, *Harmoniemesse*, *Heiligmesse* and *Paukenmesse*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, Faure's *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem*, *Grand Mass in C Minor* and *Coronation Mass*, Brahms's *German Requiem*, Elgar's *The Music Makers*, Dvorak's *Mass in D Major*, Rutter's *Magnificat*, Stainer's *Crucifixion*, Gounod's *St Cecilia Mass*, Handel's *Coronation Anthems* and *Chandos Anthems*, and many concerts of light music. We have also premiered work, such as Stephen Gillespie's *Gloria*. For the major works, we are joined by an orchestra of hospital members and their friends: the Hampstead Sinfonietta.

Visit us at [www.royalfreemusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.royalfreemusicsociety.org.uk)  
and [www.HampsteadSinfonietta.org.uk](http://www.HampsteadSinfonietta.org.uk)

## the royal free music society committee

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Chairs	Nick Jackson, Lucinda Sturgis
General Manager + support	Barbara Bryant, Nick Jackson, Kat Vroobel (non committee helpers: Anne Lloyd and Teresa Elkins)
Secretary / Communications	Jessie Twiest, Sarah Pepperrell
Membership officer + support	Jane Hassid, Danielle Cahill
Treasurer + support	James Kennedy, Katharine Hodgson
Publicity Officer + support	Barbara Foster, Anne Sedley
Fund-raising Officer + support	Barbara Bryant, Trish Pank, Sara
Henley Music Librarian	Nick Roberts
Orchestra administrator	Ellie Wood
Programme design/production	Ruth Muscat

# the zemel choir

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The Zemel Choir, established by Dudley Cohen in 1955, is proud of its international reputation as one of the world's finest mixed-voice Jewish choirs. We regularly perform in major venues throughout the U.K. and overseas, and, besides singing well-known favourites, are particularly proud to present new music, often specially commissioned, from contemporary composers. Recent highlights in the UK have included a Kristallnacht Commemoration service at Westminster Abbey, services for the Mayor of London, concerts at the South Bank Centre and St John's Smith Square, and the first European Jewish Choral Festival (2012).

We have travelled extensively to the U.S.A., Canada, Israel, and Eastern and Western Europe. Recent visits have included Belgium, France and Luxembourg (2007), Israel (2009), Paris and Strasbourg (2011), Berlin (2011), the USA and Canada (2013) and the Second European Jewish Choir Festival in Rome (2014). In November 2014 the choir will be performing at the Sacrées Journées de Strasbourg.

TV and Radio appearances have included the 1986 live television and radio broadcast of Kaddish for Terezin from Canterbury Cathedral, the Expressions of Reconciliation and Hope service in York Minster in 1990, a Holocaust Day commemoration edition of Radio 4's Sunday Worship in January 2001, and, in January 2005, an edition of BBC1's Songs of Praise, The Holocaust Remembered.

The choir is actively involved in educational work and support for Jewish charities. Our *Celebrate with Song* event, established in 2007, introduces new singers to Jewish Choral Music, and will next take place at JW3 in February 2015, while our most recent charitable concert was in aid of *Tzedek* (a charity which is involved in educational projects in Africa). In December 2014 we will be performing in support of the Alzheimer's Society. The choir also runs an annual workshop and joint concert with school children from the Goldbeaters and Orion Primary Schools in North West London. Through this work we introduce Jewish music to mixed-faith children and their families.

The Choir has maintained its reputation as a result of professional musical direction and a strong commitment to rehearsals by its members. We come together not only to sing, but also to be part of a warm and friendly social group. We are always happy to welcome new members. To find out more about us, visit our website at [www.zemelchoir.org](http://www.zemelchoir.org) or phone our membership secretary, Doreen Havardi on 020 8868 8423.

# the royal free music society

---

## Soprano

Elizabeth Bowman  
Danielle Cahill  
Cathy Cale  
Jo Charlottes  
Linda De Montfort  
Teresa Elkins  
Maureen Ezeolisah  
Mary Goyder  
Sarah Hammond  
Jane Hassid  
Sara Henley  
Mireille Levy  
Ann Lloyd  
Joanna Molloy  
Louise Morton  
Ruth Muscat  
Catherine Nightingale  
Roszie Omoregie  
Ute Paetzig  
Tricia Pank  
Sarah Pepperrell  
Kate Screen

Elizabeth Elaine Segu

Maggie Sinclair  
Veronica Soskin  
Kat Vroobel  
Ellie Wood

## Alto

Barbara Bryant  
Emma Dunning  
Jennifer Eberle  
Sue Henderson  
Katharine Hodgson  
Sophie Jackson  
Katy Makin  
Isaline Merle d'Aubigne  
Diana Muggleston  
Janet Paraskeva  
Diana Parkinson  
Sally Rochford  
Annie Sedley  
Wendy Stallings  
Darlene Stevens  
Lucinda Sturgis

Jessie Twiest  
Maike Wennemer

## Tenor

Barbara Byth  
Sarah Carrier  
Barbara Foster  
Michael Grunert  
Wilder Gutterson  
Richard Haydon  
Di Howard  
John O'Shea  
Andrew Rochford  
Robert Salmon

## Bass

Marc-Olivier Andrez  
Laurence Grace  
Gallin Hornick  
Nick Jackson  
James Kennedy  
Phil Mackney  
Aled Parry  
James Ridler  
Nick Roberts

# the zemel choir

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## Soprano

Elizabeth Alpren  
Vivienne Beber  
Linda Chainey  
Blanche Eckman  
Natalie Gies  
Bobby Jacobs  
Angela Lawrence  
Henrietta Levin  
Geraldine Luder  
Susan Michelson  
Ros Regan  
Pauline Silver  
Rosie Simmons  
Ruth Sonntag  
Helen Stone  
Shirley Wagner

## Alto

Kay Bagon  
Laura Brody  
Linda Brody  
Carmel Byers  
Deborah Cooper  
Rusty Davis  
Ruth Freedman  
Suzanne Goodman  
Doreen Havardi  
Jennifer Kay  
Diane Sheer  
Sharon Tyler  
Maureen Weigert  
Viviane White

## Tenor

Merrill Dresner  
Jeffrey Freeman

Peter Pollak  
Stephen Rabin  
Geoffrey Simmons  
Simon Tabbush  
Daniel Tunkel  
Chaggai Weissler  
Thomas Westcott

## Bass

Anthony Cohen  
Michael Druce  
Jonathan Fenton  
Saul Lanyado  
Stuart Luder  
Michael Morris  
Philip Roth  
Gary Tucker  
Noah Weiniger

# the hampstead sinfonietta

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## Violin I

Sarah Carter - leader  
Eva Gawkowska  
Kate Coggins  
Alex Lamont  
Jeannie Okikiolu  
Keiko Thiele

## Violin II

Sharon Philbey -  
principal  
Robert Chatley  
Varuni Paronavitane  
Tracy Hyman  
Kate Bailey  
Chris Gundry

## Viola

James Taylor -  
principal  
Rhiannon Mayon-White  
Nilanthe Kelsey

Freda Ward  
Janet Farrell  
Paul Silverman

## Cello

Tom Martin - principal  
Hilary Wood  
Annika Forkert  
Ed Tricklebank  
Marco Russo  
Claire Parker

## Bass

Cat Stack - principal  
Annie Sedgewick  
Dominic Nudd  
Sara Dixon

## Flute

Corinne Bass  
Tracy James

... *and friends*

## Oboe

Estelle Gouws

## Clarinet

Kelvin Giles

## Bassoon

John Wingfield  
Rebecca Thorne

## Horn

Alan Byers  
Simon Fraiss  
Matt Meyer

## Trumpet

Giles Taylor

## Trombone

Tony Adams

## Timpani

Ellie Wood

## rfms 2014-15 concert dates

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**13 December 2014:** Christmas concert - Taverner, Bach, Poulenc, carols

**21 March 2015:** Spring concert - Vivaldi, Parry, Stainer, Wesley, and others

**20 June 2015:** summer concert - Handel, Hadyn and more

**Autumn concert (date tbc)** - Rossini - Petite Messe Solennelle

## zemel choir 2014-15 events

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**8-10 November 2014:** Tour to Les Sacrées Journées de Strasbourg

**1 December 2014:** A Magical Evening with the Zemel Choir, in aid of  
Dementia Cafes in the London Borough of Barnet

**8 & 22 February 2015:** Celebrate with Song at JW3 - Come and sing Jewish  
Choral Music with your favourite choir

**23 February 2015:** New Members Evening

**11-15 June 2015:** The European Jewish Choral Festival - Concerts in London  
on 11 & 14 June

Further details at <http://www.zemelchoir.org/stay-in-touch-with-zemel/>  
If you would like to sponsor any of our events or advertise in our  
Gala Festival brochure, please email [Jonathan@zemelchoir.org](mailto:Jonathan@zemelchoir.org).

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Pleased to be associated with the RFMS

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# become a valued patron of the rfms

Support from Patrons helps pay for our soloists, musical direction and accompanist. If you enjoyed tonight's concert and can help the choir flourish, a minimum donation of £100 guarantees **free entry** to all concerts, access to our master class and free copies of concert CDs for 1 year.

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Please contact Wilder Gutterson (wgutterson@gmail.com, 020 7419 4252) for further information, or fill out the form below and give to a member of the choir this evening, or post to us:

RFMS, c/o Wilder Gutterson, 11 Croftdown Road, London NW5 1EL

Our heartfelt thanks to our loyal Patrons: Adrian Cahill, Rev. & Mrs. Devonshire-Jones, Billy Elkins, David Gluckman, Mrs Patsy Henley, Stuart Houghton, and Rev Peter Baker.

